

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
/058 W

-----055183 150134Z /21

R 141701Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1035
JCS
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
FAIRECONRON FOUR

S E C R E T MADRID 5348

NOFORN

CINCLANT FOR J31

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: MARR, OCLR, SP
SUBJECT: STAGING OF TACAMO OPERATIONS IN THE CANARIES

REF: FAIRECONRON 081819Z JUL 77 (NOTAL)

1. THIS EMBASSY WAS ASKED EARLY IN JULY BY AN AMERICAN
CORRESPONDENT IF IT WAS TRUE THAT THERE HAD BEEN CONSIDER-
ABLE US MILITARY ACTIVITY IN THE CANARIES RECENTLY. HE
WAS TOLD THAT THERE HAD NOT BEEN SINCE WE HAVE NO MILITARY
FACILITIES THERE. WE WERE IN FACT NOT AWARE OF MORE THAN
OCCASIONAL MILITARY FLIGHTS.

2. GIVEN THE EXTREME POLITICAL SENSITIVITY IN SPAIN OF
THE QUESTION OF ANY FOREIGN MILITARY USE OF THE CANARIES
(A MATTER OF WHICH THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT AGAIN THIS WEEK
HAS FELT CONSTRAINED TO ISSUE PUBLIC DENIALS), WE

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THEN IMMEDIATELY SOUGHT TO DETERMINE WHAT MIGHT HAVE
PROMPTED THE QUESTION.

3. IN THIS PROCESS, WE HAVE NOW LEARNED FOR THE FIRST
TIME THROUGH INFORMATION VOLUNTEERED BY JACCC SPAIN
AND FAIRECONRON FOUR (REFTEL) THAT THE LATTER
ORGANIZATION CARRYING OUT TACAMO MISSION HAS STAGED SOME 23

EC-130 FLIGHTS THROUGH GANDO (GRAN CANARIA) THIS YEAR FOR CREW REST AND REFUELING, WITH 7 IN MAY, 5 IN JUNE AND 6 PROJECTED FOR JULY.

4. WE HAVE EVERY WISH TO BE FULLY SUPPORTIVE OF SUCH MISSIONS OF IMPORTANCE TO US MILITARY OPERATIONS. THESE FLIGHTS HAVE BEEN CLEARED CORRECTLY IN THE ROUTINE MANNER THROUGH MILITARY CHANNELS (VIA JACCC AT TORREJON). HOWEVER, IT IS ALSO ESSENTIAL THAT THIS MISSION BE BRIEFED AND KEPT INFORMED OF SUCH MILITARY ACTIVITIES, PARTICULARLY SO THAT WE WILL BE IN A POSITION TO BE FULLY SUPPORTIVE.

5. FOR THE EVENTUALITY THAT WE RECEIVE FURTHER INQUIRIES EITHER FROM THE PRESS OR FROM POLITICAL LEVELS OF THE GOS, REQUEST WE BE GIVEN GUIDANCE AS TO HOW THESE MISSIONS SHOULD BE DESCRIBED. STABLER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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